

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /088 W

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R 221111Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4380

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:IWFOR, UR, AF

SUBJECT: DAOUD ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

REF: KABUL 3656 (1974) (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY SUMMARY TRANSLATION IN DUBIOUS ENGLISH OF PRESIDENT DAOUD'S RECENT INTERVIEW, AS YET UNPUBLISHED, WITH "YOMIURI SHIMBUN" CORRESPONDENT SAKI. AMONG SUBJECTS RAISED WAS SOVIET-SPONSORED ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM.

2. SUBJECT WAS DEALT WITH IN QUICK EXCHANGE AS FOLLOWS:
SAKI: "THE SOVIET UNION HAS SCHEMES FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA WHEREAS CHINA IS AGAINST THIS INCLINATION. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION IN THIS RESPECT?"

DAOUD: "IN MY OPINION, THE STATUS OF ASIAN COUNTRIES, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THEIR SPECIAL INTERESTS,
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DIFFERS FROM THE STANDS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND

THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA"

3. THIS SEEMS A RATHER BLUNT ANSWER ON A SUBJECT AFGHANS HAVE CAUTIOUSLY AND ADROITLY HANDLED IN PAST. WHILE THE GOA HAS FORMERLY APPEARED TO ENDORSE THE NOTION OF AN ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM, IT HAS SET SUCH PRE-CONDITIONS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH A SCHEME AS TO VITIATE THE SINCERITY AND DEPTH OF ITS ENDORSEMENT. IN JUNE 5, 1974 SPEECH AT KREMLIN LUNCHEON (REFTEL), DAOUD REFERRED TO COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM, AS A "COMMENDABLE IDEA" WHICH "WOULD MEET THE INTEREST OF ASIAN PEOPLES". YET JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT END OF MOSCOW VISIT STATED THAT PRIOR TO CREATION OF THE SYSTEM "SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTABLE ISSUES THROUGH PEACEABLE MEANS AND ELIMINATION OF REMNANTS OF COLONIALISM" IN REGION MUST BE ACHIEVED. THIS LINE OBVIOUSLY REFERS TO GOA BORDER DISPUTE WITH PAKISTAN AND POSSIBLY TO SINO-SOVIET FRICTION. WE KNOW THAT THE AFGHANS CONSIDERED WORDING IMPORTANT AND SPENT MANY HOURS IN WINNING ACCEPTANCE OF THIS LANGUAGE.

4. COMMENT: IT IS NOT OBVIOUS WHY DAOUD WOULD CHOSE THIS FORUM OR THIS MOMENT TO SIGNAL A CHANGE FROM PAST GOA POLICY, WHICH SEEMED TO SERVE AFGHAN INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS SOVIET UNION. WE EXPECT OFFICIAL TEXT OF INTERVIEW TO BE PUBLISHED HERE AND THAT READ IN CONTEYET OF COMPLETE INTERVIEW GOA'S INTENTIONS MAY BE MORE CLEARLY INDICATED. CURRAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KABUL06239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750328-0197
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750930/aaaabaph.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KABUL 3656
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DAOUD ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY
TAGS: PFOR, UR, AF, (DAOUD, MOHAMMED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006